



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 7
25 FUNSTON ROAD
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66115

Rose, Martha
MOB 980633069
1.1

September 17, 1986

MEMORANDUM

9-17-86
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SUBJECT: Status of Rose Chemical, Holden, Missouri

FROM: Charles P. Hensley *CPH*
Chief, EP&R/ENSV

FOIA Exemption 4

TO: J. Scott Pemberton
CNSL

The following is an update on the Martha C. Rose Chemical (MRC) facility prepared by George Hess of my staff.

O.H. Materials was mobilized to the MRC facility on September 2 - 10, 1986, to perform the required stabilization as agreed upon between Counsel (CNSL) and the generators meeting on August 22, 1986.

The Emergency Planning and Response (EP&R) Branch and the Technical Assistance Team (TAT) oversaw and received split samples for sampling conducted September 3 and 4, 1986. The fence perimeter area, Holden sewer lines and treatment plant, the creek and several areas around the outside of the main building were sampled. The samples (DKJ8D001-014) have been submitted to the Regional Laboratory for analysis. The sample results should be available in approximately six weeks.

Clean Sites, Inc., indicated they had completed all agreed-on activities required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the August 22 meeting. [REDACTED] Clean Sites, will send a status report concerning the activities on September 9, 1986. They anticipate having their prime contractor picked the week of September 22, 1986, and will have a contract in place by the end of September. Actual site work will begin when the Administrative Order is issued.

At the request of CNSL and Toxics and Pesticides (TOPE) Branches, EP&R visited the various sites around Holden (Donald McCoy, Jim Knox, Charles Buxton, Sharon Hayes, Dwight Thomas and Donna Thomas sites) where materials removed from the MRC facility were known to be stored.

The Donald McCoy property can be seen from the MRC facility. The yellow storage trailer and steel storage racks have not been moved.

The Knox property was visited next. I stopped at the Knox residence located next to where material is stored, no one was at home so I proceeded to the storage area where I was met by Mr. Buxton. He showed me the



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SUPERFUND RECORDS

items removed from MRC and indicated that Mr. Jim Carolan had mentioned to Mr. Dwight Thomas that he (Mr. Buxton) could have the items. He also indicated that Mr. Carolan had been to his property and the Knox's to inspect what was there. Mr. Buxton placed the items on the Knox property and also said someone other than himself had moved the material around since it had been placed there.

The material at this site would be equal to one standard-size pickup truck load. The items consisted of electric motors, various plumbing fixtures, electrical items (wire, control box) and other assorted small items. After photographing the items, Mr. Buxton escorted me to his property which is adjacent to the Knox property to the east.

Mr. Buxton indicated that the only things from the MRC on his property were three vats (approximately 300 gallons on legs) painted with red primer and a house boat. He indicated he has observed Dwight Thomas working at the house boat he also indicated some materials were removed from MRC by a friend of Dwight Thomas' who lives near St. Louis, Missouri. Mr. Buxton was very cooperative, however, he thinks PCBs are not the health risk they are reported to be and the only reason anyone wants to recover the materials is for their resale value. Mr. Buxton thinks various towns people are accusing him of burying items from MRC on this piece of property, (he indicated that there was not) and we were welcome to check.

After leaving the Buxton property, I returned to the MRC and picked up Mr. Bob Fine, TAT, and proceeded to the Hay's property. When we arrived at the entrance to the property the gate was open so we proceeded up the dirt road; approximately a quarter of a mile up the road we were met by a man on a tractor. I identified myself and showed him my credentials. The man identified himself as Mr. Hayes, Sharon Hayes' husband. He denied us access to the property. I explained all we wanted to do was to confirm if the four trailers from the MRC were still on the property. Mr. Hayes said the trailers have not moved and that enough pictures and samples have been taken. Apparently, his mother owns the property and they are upset with the whole affair. Mr. Hayes is an over-the-road truck driver who hauls hazardous waste. When I asked who he hauled for he would not answer although he indicated later he was about to haul a load of nuclear waste from New Jersey when all the arrangements were completed.

After leaving the Hayes' property, we proceeded to the Dwight Thomas property. The property is presently up for sale, no one was home and no one could be located in the vicinity of the house so we left and proceeded to the Donna Thomas property. No one was at this property either. We did not get out of our vehicle because of two dogs which did not appear to be overly friendly. From the vehicle, it appeared some of the material which was placed in the large red shed near the house had not been moved.

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